

My response to School Cannot Do It Alone

1. Flex schedule for teachers: 8:30 - 4:30 or 9:00 - 5:00
Students: 9:30 - 4:15
2. 9th hour opportunity period: meetings, projects, music, speech, athletics, career study, make contacts for shadowing, teachers tackle the “Informal Track”, homework help,
3. 4 day weeks
4. 7 week terms, 1 week off
5. After 3 terms, 1 week for semester finals and presentation of portfolios/projects to whole student body, faculty, and community.
6. Fridays: opportunity to make up absences, collaboration, work on ideas to motivate students, extra practices, clubs, PD, volunteer work for students, job shadowing
7. daily schedule:

period	time	activity
1	9:30-10:12	periods 1 and 2 would be
2	10:12-10:54	major project time as in #1
3	10:54-11:36	
4	11:36-12:18	
lunch	12:18-12:45	there would be no study halls
5	12:45-1:27	
6	1:27-2:09	
7	2:09-2:51	
8	2:51-3:33	
9	3:33-4:15	opportunity period

Possibilities:

1. First 2 periods work in teams on projects of interest which include all 4 core subjects. Teachers rotate or group students doing similar projects (place subject teachers with subject area) Ex: Project primarily related to journalism would have an English teacher the majority of the time. Other teachers would rotate in as needed and the english teacher would go to other areas to monitor writing skills.

2. Identify 6 major career areas. Students could choose a different area for each of the 6 terms or stay in one area for more than one. (Freshmen may have to be required to attend all 6 until they identify where they have the most interest)
3. The one week off would be opportunity for students to go out into the community and shadow or work full time or volunteer. The community would provide the opportunity not only to gain skills, but to experience team work, self-discipline, respect, participation, appreciation, etc.
4. Shadow every Friday for 7 weeks - work a position for 1 week.

2011 would have looked like this:

week of	days
Jan 3 - Feb 14	28
feb 21	off
feb 28 - april 11	28
april 18	off
april 25 - june 6	28
june 13	off or switch with June 20
june 20-24	semester finals 5
june 27	off
july 5 - aug 15(4th off go F)	28
aug 22	off
aug 29-oct 10	28
oct 17	off
oct 24- dec 5(go some Fri)	28
dec 12-16	semester finals 5
dec19-dec 26	off